

Finite Element Analysis of Ball Bearing for Different Materials

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ABSTRACT

Bearing is an important part of a moving machine which is used for relative motion between the contact surfaces. Wear and tear of bearing is a common problem due to friction between the moving parts. A lot of researchers have done work for improving the life of the bearing. In the present work, traditionally used ball bearing has been modeled and analysed using FEM. Parameters such as Equivalent (Von-Mises) Stress, Maximum Principal Stress, Equivalent Elastic Strain, Maximum Shear Stress and Total Deformation have been found out. Analysis has also been carried for finding out the effect of material of bearing: steel, Structural Steel, Si₃N₄ and SiC on its performance along with elastic strain, stiffness and total deformation for various materials. It can be concluded that the Deformation and Elastic Strain induced in the SiC is less than the steel, structural steel and Si₃N₄ for the present investigation and the Stiffness of SiC is maximum as compared to steel, structural steel and Si₃N₄ hence SiC is the best material for ball bearing.

KEYWORDS: Finite Element Analysis, Ball bearing, materials, Structural Steel, SiC, Si₃N₄

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INTRODUCTION

A bearing is a machine element which supports another moving machine element. It is used for relative motion between the contact surfaces of the members, while carrying the load. Due to relative motion between the contact surfaces, a certain amount of power is wasted in overcoming frictional resistance. Also if the resist surfaces are in direct contact, there is rapid wear. To reduce frictional resistance a layer of fluid (known as lubricant) may be provided.

In the present work, traditionally used ball bearing has been modeled and analysed using FEM. Equivalent (Von-Mises) Stress, Maximum Principal Stress, Equivalent Elastic Strain, Maximum Shear Stress and Total Deformation have been found out. Also analysis has been carried for finding out the effect of material of bearing: steel, Structural Steel, Si₃N₄ and SiC on its performance along with elastic strain, stiffness and total deformation for various materials.

GEOMETRIC MODELING AND MESHING

Geometric Modeling

A model of the ball bearing is first created using UNIGRAPHICS (NX8.5) software. Then the model is imported to ANSYS 14.5 to complete static structural analysis; the finite element analysis and mechanical properties.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Jiazhi Hea and Yibao Chenb analysed about the sleeve joint structure in cantilever. R. Pandiyarajan et al. 2016 determined the contact stress of large diameter ball bearings using analytical and numerical methods. C. Akgu'ner, M. Kirkit, 2016 compared the axial bearing capacities estimated with pile load tests and empirical methods for seven rock-socketed single cast-in-place piles constructed in Turkey. František Pochylý et al 2015 presented a modified Reynolds equation for studying the effect of fluid slipping at partially hydrophobic surface. Zhang Yongqi et al. 2015 developed FEM of roller bearings by using Reynolds equation and considering the surface roughness. Many researchers have worked for life enhancement of bearings. FEM analysis can be used for analysis of bearings.

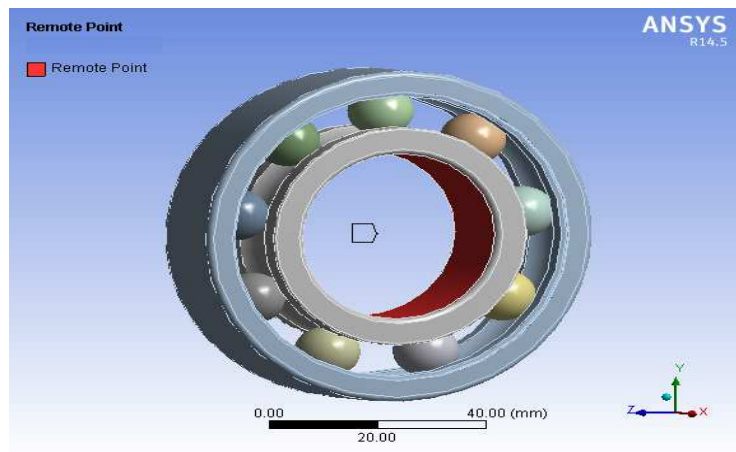


Fig 1: Model of ball bearing.

Meshing

In the present thesis work meshing of the model has been done using default meshing type tetrahedral method of contact size 1 mm and body size 5mm. Number of nodes and elements are 8000 and 2100 are being created respectively.

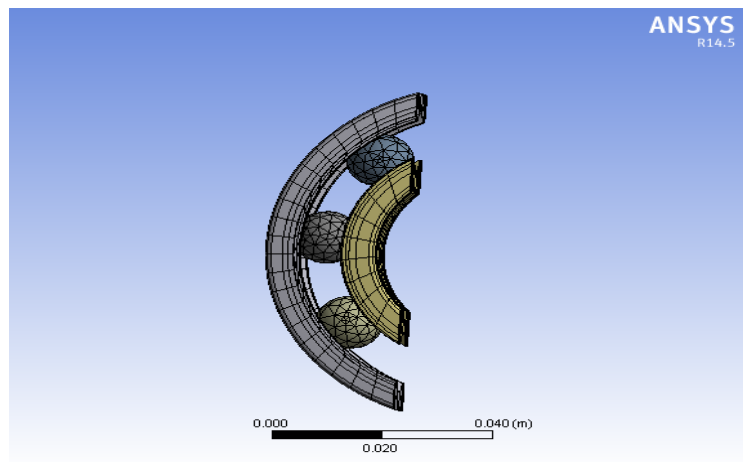


Fig 2: Mesh model of ball bearing.

BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

During analysis two boundary conditions has been considered which on ball bearing are as follows:

Applying Force of 1000 N on inner case at inner surface of ball bearing, which is calculated, stress, strain and deformation from FEA.

Fixed support of outer case of ball bearing.

The analysis has been done for steel, Stainless Steel, Si_3N_4 , SiC

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Analysis is carried out under static structural module of ANSYS workbench The Equivalent (Von-Misses) Stress, Maximum Principal Stress, Equivalent Elastic Strain, Maximum Shear Stress and Total Deformation are calculated using ANSYS. Bearing steel, Structural Steel, Si_3N_4 and SiC are used as the ball bearing material for analysis and its mechanical properties are provided as the input to the ANSYS.

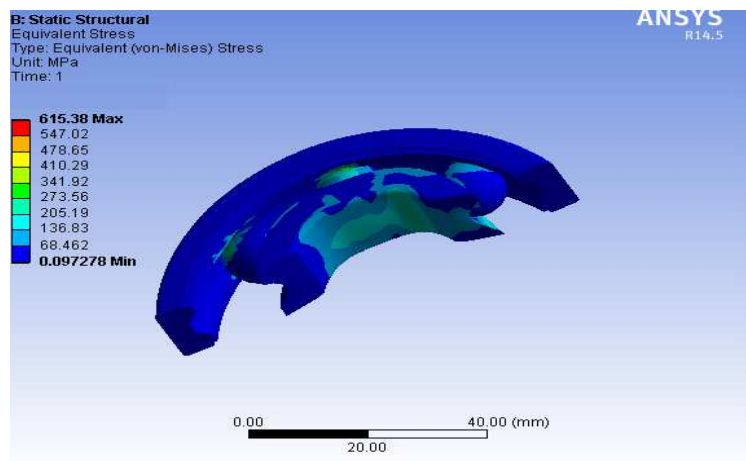


Fig 3: Von-misses stress of steel ball bearing

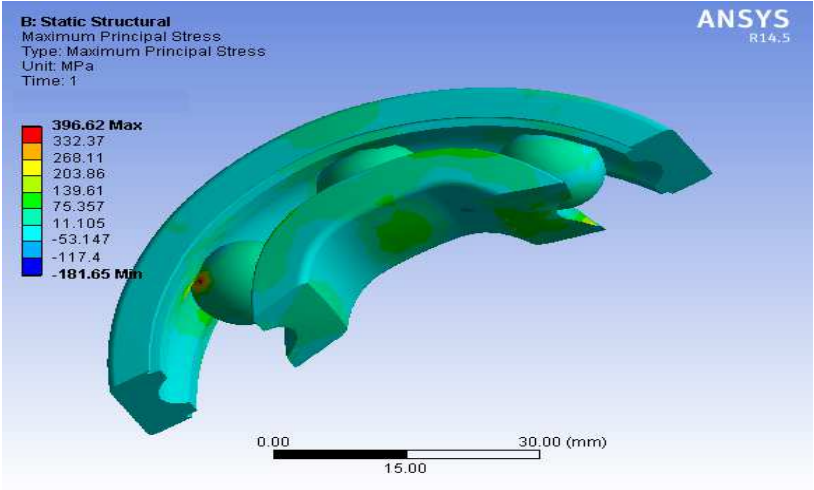


Fig 4: Principal stress of steel ball bearing.

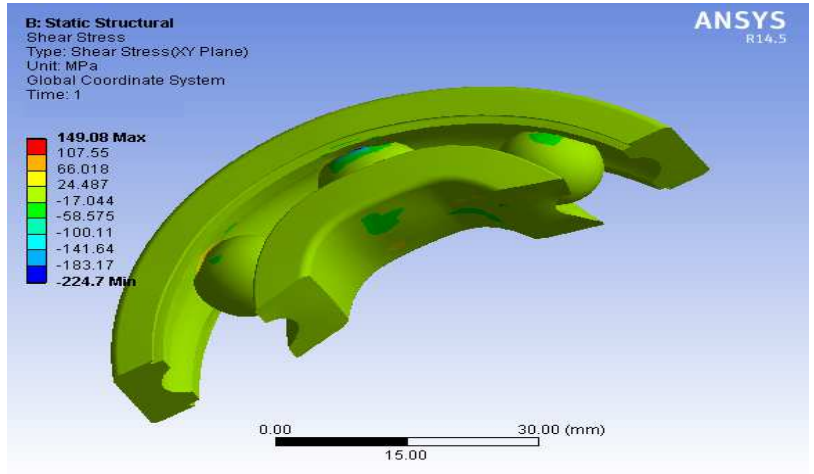


Fig 5: Shear stress of steel ball bearing.

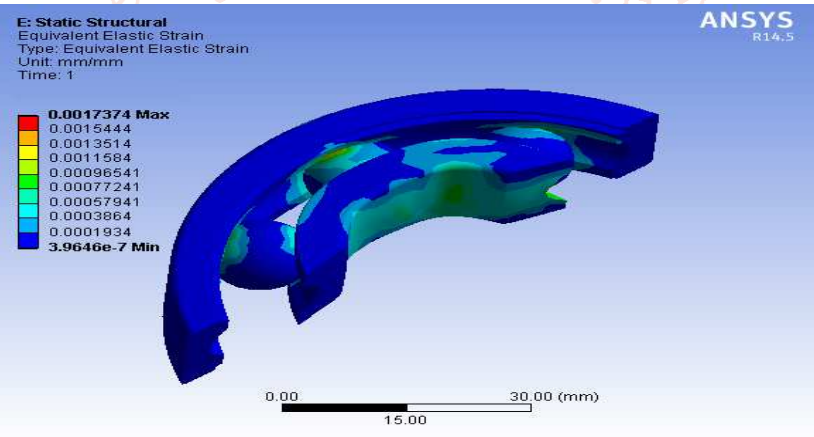


Fig 6: Elastic strain of SiC ball bearing.

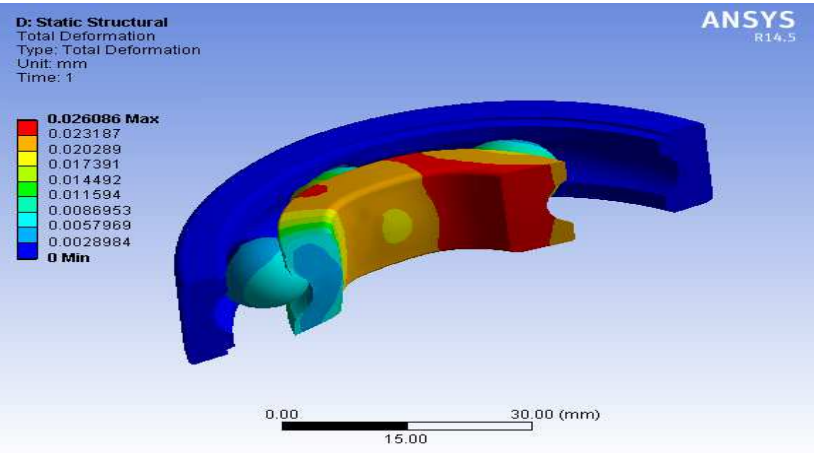


Fig 7: Total deformation of Si₃N₄ball bearing

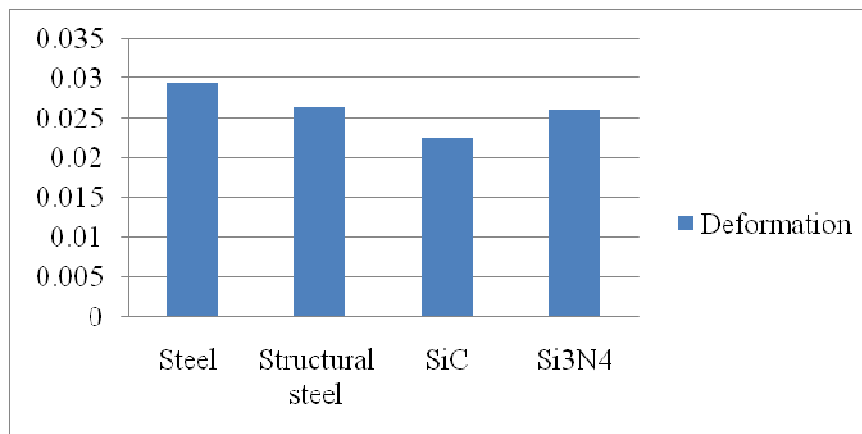


Fig 9: Total deformation

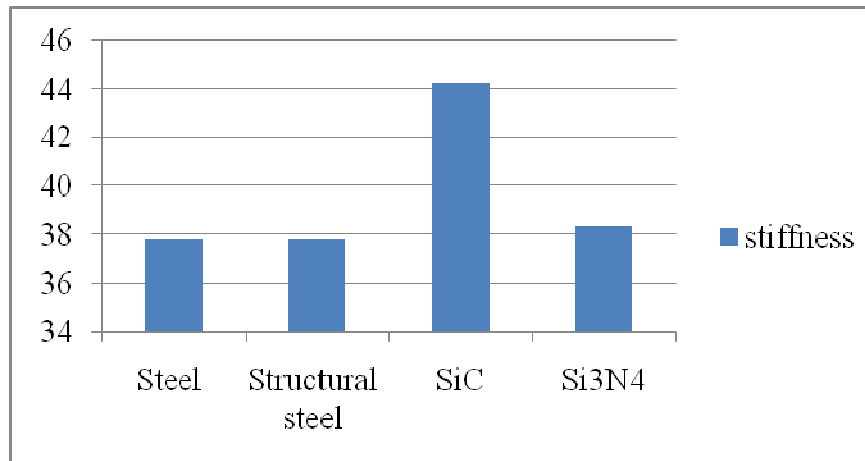


Fig 10: Stiffness

CONCLUSIONS

Finite element analysis of four different materials: Steel, Structural Steel, Si_3N_4 and SiC have been carried out. Ball bearing is 3D solid modeled with UNIGRAPHICS (NX8.5) and static analysis is carried out by using ANSYS software to understand the Structural response of the ball bearing. Finite element analysis of the ball bearing has been done using FEA tool ANSYS Workbench. It can be concluded that the maximum Von-mises stress is 615.38MPa, Principal stress is 396.62MPa, Shear stress is 149.08MPa and the minimum Von-mises stress is 97.278×10^{-3} MPa, Principal stress is -181.65 MPa, Shear stress is -224.7 MPa respectively for steel. Deformation occurs in steel (23.26%), structural steel (14.58%) and Si_3N_4 (13.36%) ball bearing are higher as compared to the SiC ball bearing. Elastic Strain occurs in steel (48.58%), structural steel (23.56%) and Si_3N_4 (11.18%) ball bearing are higher as compared to the SiC ball bearing. It is concluded that the Deformation and Elastic Strain induced in the SiC is less than the steel, structural steel and Si_3N_4 for the present investigation and the Stiffness of SiC is maximum as compared to steel, structural steel and Si_3N_4 hence SiC is the best material for ball bearing.

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